

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/711,225

Applicant(s)

BUDAL ET AL.

Examiner

Art Unit

Richard M. Lorence

3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on December 12, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-16.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 010606 .
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

The amendment filed on December 12, 2005 has been entered. The specification has been amended and claim 17 has been cancelled.

The eight (8) replacement drawing sheets were received on December 12, 2005. These drawings are acceptable.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The submission of the replacement drawings has overcome both the objection under 35 USC 132 (a) and the rejection under 35 USC 112, 1st paragraph set forth in the previous Office action.

The cancellation of claim 17 has rendered moot the drawing objection, and the rejection under 35 USC 112, 2nd paragraph and 35 USC 102(b) set forth in the previous Office action.

Applicant's arguments, see pages 16-17 of the response filed December 12, 2005, with respect to the rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 USC 103 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 USC 103 has been withdrawn.

None of the prior art of record shows or suggests a method for adapting clutch characteristics in a vehicle having a twin-clutch system as specified in claim 1 comprising the step of executing a zero correction of a displacement measurement of the first and/or second clutch actuating mechanism according to a predetermined strategy as a function of predetermined criteria.

Nor does the prior art of record shows or suggest a method for adapting clutch characteristics in a moving vehicle having a twin-clutch system as specified in claims 2 and 3 comprising the step of executing a zero correction on the first and second clutches.

Nor does the prior art of record shows or suggest a method for adapting clutch characteristics in a stationary vehicle having a twin-clutch system as specified in claims 4-8 comprising the step of executing a zero correction on the first and second clutches.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard M. Lorence whose telephone number is (571) 272-7094. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 9:00AM to 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on (571) 272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Richard M. Lorence
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3681

Lorence/rml

Attorney Docket No. : LUKP:115US
Appl. No. 10/711,225
Amdt. dated December 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 14, 2005

*Approved
Jan 11/10/06*

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include the cancellation of Figure 2, the replacement of Figure 4 with new Figure 4, and the addition of Figures 2a, 2b, 2c, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9. The sheets, which include Figures 1 and 3, replace the original sheets including Figures 1 and 3. The sheets, which include new Figures 2a, 2b and 2c, replace the original sheet including Figure 2. The sheets, which include new Figures 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, replace the original sheet including Figure 4. In the sheets containing Figures 1 and 3, the sheet reference numbers, *i.e.*, 1 of 8 and 5 of 8, respectively, have been modified to reflect the addition of new sheets. In Figures 2a, 2b and 2c, consecutive and simultaneous adaptation, and last successful adaptation and starting off gear methods of original Figure 2 have been more clearly depicted. New Figures 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 include the strategies depicted in original Figure 4.

Attachment: Replacement sheets
New sheets